

PARCELS

FROM
Paradise

May 2025

There are several articles about hurricanes and hurricane preparation in this edition of Parcels. Surely, Parcels does not have to convince Venetian residents of the possibility of a hurricane in this area plus the need to prepare early for the upcoming hurricane season. Even if you are a snowbird, it is recommended that you read the hurricane information contained in this edition of Parcels.



HURRICANE PREPARATION UPDATES

Vgrc Annual Community Hurricane Preparation Meeting

Each year, the Community Association hosts a hurricane preparation meeting for members of the community. Attendance at last year's meeting was fantastic, including standing room only for late comers and residents commented on how informative it was. Each year there is a wealth of new information shared by our speakers as they reveal changes that may be made because of the previous year's hurricane season. This year it is predicted that the hurricane season may rival last year's season and, to that end, education and preparation will be key.

This year's meeting will be on **Monday, June 2nd, at 5:00 pm** in the River Club. In addition to our usual speakers, namely, Assistant City Manager James Clinch and Fire Chief Frank Giddens, the Emergency Manager Chief for Sarasota County, Susan Tapfumaneyei, will also speak. This will be a very informative meeting and will provide community members a forum to ask pressing questions.

As a reminder, here is a map of the 2024 hurricanes.



Thank you for reading Parcels. If you have a story idea click on "reply" and let us know.

VISIT: www.vgrcca.org

Hurricane Response Team Application

The Hurricane Response Team is a volunteer group of residents who are called out to address hurricane-related issues on property. The application to join the HRT can be found at <https://vgrcca.org/hurricane-response-team-application/>. We hope you will consider this opportunity to assist your community.

2025 Hurricane Guide

The City of Venice's 2025 Hurricane Guide has been fully updated and is now available on our website: <https://vgrcca.org/2025-venice-city-hurricane-guide/>

Hurricane Expo, May 30th

The annual Hurricane Expo will be held at the Venice Community Center (on the island) on **May 30th from 9 am – 2pm**. Admission is free. A list of local hurricane experts, including Channel 7 Chief Meteorologist, Bob Harrigan, will provide valuable information for attendees. Vendors will also be available to provide hurricane-related products and services. Our own Hurricane Response Team (HRT) has been invited to attend the Expo and will have a booth to share information about our outstanding volunteer-based program.

THE LATEST FOR VGRC RESIDENTS

Special Golf Course Membership

The Venetian Golf Course has a special introductory rate from now to October 31st. Check out the flyer at the end of Parcels providing information about this special membership program. If you have any questions, contact Membership Director Gary Weller at 941-441-2290....and if you join, remember *"hit 'em straight!"*

Sock It to Me

Thank you to those residents who attended the many seminars and events sponsored by the Community Association during Knock Your Socks Off....Season 2. During the summer, a subcommittee of the Community Association will be working on the event and seminar schedule for next year. Before the committee starts their work, they would like to hear from residents as to any suggestions for future events and seminars. Please send your ideas to vgrcca@gmail.com. Your input will be of value in the planning process. The picture below is the expert sharpener, Eddie Swing, at the recent "SharPfest" sponsored by the VGRC Community Association.



Northeast Park

There appears to be some movement of dirt at the long-awaited Northeast Park on Laurel Rd. This City of Venice project has gone through years of planning and plenty of community input. Before long, residents will have access to a very functional park for all ages.



Volunteers Needed for Memorial Day Flag Placement



April 30, 2025, marked the 50th anniversary of the end of our involvement in the Vietnam War. Operation Frequent Wind occurred over the 29th and 30th of April 1975 and evacuated U.S. embassy personnel and at-risk South Vietnamese civilians. This operation marked the end of our involvement in the Vietnam War - a war where the U.S. military reported 58,220 American service members casualties. Many were touched in some way by that conflict, either by family or friends who fought in Vietnam, or by just watching it on the evening news at home. Many of us have a strong memory of that time. Memorial Day 2025 gives us an opportunity to remember not only those who died in the Vietnam War, but all of those who deployed in all of our nations' conflicts and never returned. To honor their sacrifice, the Community Association will place flags at the community entrance and the River Club traffic circle. If you wish to join in this event, meet us at the welcome center parking lot at **8:00 am on Friday, May 23rd** to help us place flags to honor all those who have perished in all of our conflicts throughout our 249-year history. During this weekend, please take a moment to think about those who perished and, in doing so, thank them for their sacrifice.



Shopping Center Update

If there is an appeal to the latest Venice Council's decision affirming the shopping center, it should occur around May 9th. Information will be posted on the CA website at www.vgrcca.org. At the end of Parcels is a very simple drawing that will give residents a better idea as to the location of the proposed Publix and other stores in relations to the entrances on Jacaranda and Laurel.

TAKE NOTE

New Medical Emergency Center Planned

Look for a new emergency center, the Florida Blue Sanitas Medical Center of Venice, which will be in the Venice Commons, 1445 E. Venice Ave., at the west end of the shopping center. The Shopping Center is near the corner of E. Venice and Pinebrook Ave and houses a large Publix.

Dressed in White

Looking for a fun, engaging way to stay active and connect with others? The Sarasota County Croquet Club, located in Venice at 1400 Lucaya Avenue (Wellfield Park on Pinebrook near Venice Ave.), offers the many pleasures of this timeless lawn game. Croquet provides a unique blend of physical, mental, and social benefits, making it an ideal activity for all ages.

The Sarasota County Croquet Club is the largest municipal croquet club in the country. With over 250 members, the Club has a vibrant community where friendships flourish.

Croquet is great for the mind, body and spirit! As a low-impact sport, croquet promotes physical health without straining the body, as you walk, bend and swing away, improving your mobility, balance, and coordination. The SCCC maintains an active calendar of on and off-court activities throughout the year, fostering camaraderie off the courts through monthly potluck suppers, holiday events and barbeques.

SCCC has a deep tradition as a teaching club, so free beginner lessons are offered to the public every Tuesday at 9:30am. Mallets are provided, and no whites required. Plus, the Summer Membership Special is ON! For only \$99.00 you can play from May 1st to October 1st and enjoy endless games, social events, and the chance to experience croquet's many rewards all summer long! **For more information visit sarasotacountycroquet.com, or call Gene Raymond, membership, at 941-800-2791.** See you on the courts!

Have a City Issue?

311 is a number that you might include in your contacts. It is a dedicated line to alert the city/county of issues including:

- Sidewalk and road repairs
- Noise complaints
- Large debris blocking roadways
- Damaged traffic signals or road signs
- Graffiti removal
- Leaking hydrant or sewer problems

Remember, the VGRC is considered somewhat of their own "town" therefore, some internal issues, such as, streets and lakes, should be first directed to the CDD Field Manager.

Those who have used the 311 service have usually received a prompt response to their concern.

Monitoring Your Water Usage

Have you ever discovered a running toilet—after it cost you hundreds of dollars? You're not alone. Fortunately, the City of Venice now makes it easier to prevent that from happening again. The solution is EyeOnWater, a free app available on the App Store, Google Play, or at www.eyeonwater.com. After registering with your name, address, and water account number, you can monitor your water usage daily, weekly, monthly or yearly. Most importantly, you can set up leak alerts to catch problems early—before they become expensive. See <https://vgrcca.org/avoid-expensive-water-bills-with-eye-on-water/> for more information.

In the Heat of the Day... and even the Night

As the temperatures and humidity climb, heat exhaustion and heat stroke can strike almost anyone. Under both conditions, it comes on suddenly without any warning. For those biking, golfing, playing pickleball or tennis, we suggest paying attention to the precautions one must take, Parcels reached out to our neighbor, Sarasota Memorial Hospital, for advice about this area of concern for some practical advice. Please click on <https://www.smh.com/blog/protect-yourself-from-heat-stroke-heat-exhaustion>

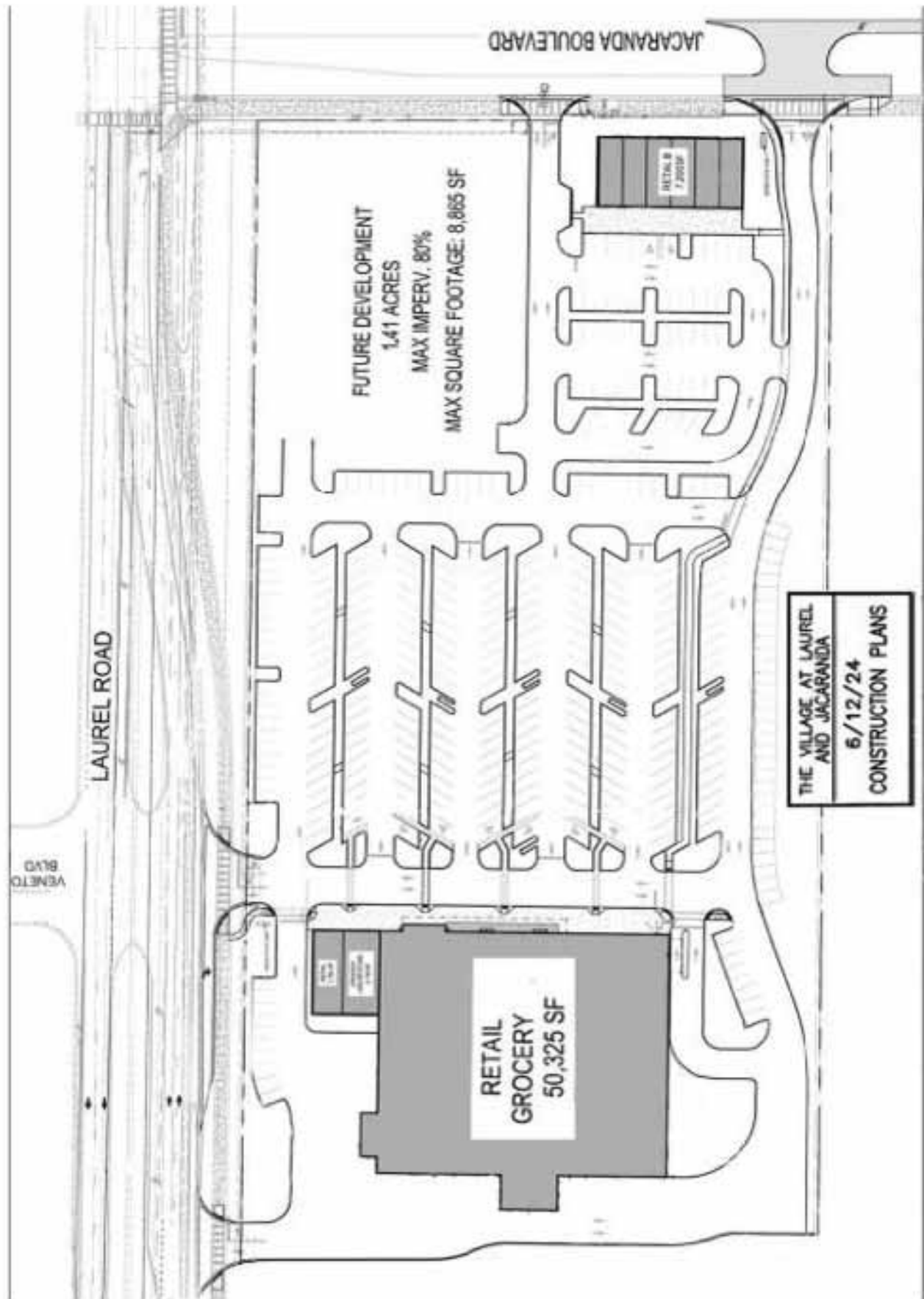
Enjoying Parcels?

We hope you are and if you would like to help defray the cost of publishing the newsletter as well as having you recognized in one of the editions, please send your name to vgrcca@gmail.com. The cost to “advertise” is \$99.00

FINAL THOUGHTS - CLUB 90

Often in conversation with residents, Parcels gets a few ideas for the newsletter. While playing golf, a member of the foursome praised a couple who they see frequently on the course. The interesting thing about the couple is both are in their 90's. With that in mind, Parcels would like to acknowledge in various editions, those who are 90 years or older. Therefore, if you are 90 years old or older and live at the Venetian, please feel free to forward to vgrcca@gmail.com your name and the YEAR when you were born. In turn, Parcels will post your name in Parcels' “Club 90”. If you know someone who is at least 90 years old, encourage them to submit their name. They deserve the recognition!







LIMITED TIME MEMBERSHIP OFFERING

Discover Membership at Venetian Golf Club



PRIVATE CLUB MEMBERSHIP

We're excited to offer a limited-time Golf Membership opportunity. Pay just \$3,500 and enjoy full Golf & Social privileges at Venetian Golf Club, plus reciprocal golf access, **now through October 31, 2025**, with no dues or cart fees.

Reciprocal Golf Access includes up to 4 rounds per club, per month at these premier Heritage Golf Group clubs in Southwest Florida:

- TPC Tampa Bay, TPC Prestancia, Lakewood Ranch Golf & Country Club, The Club at Pelican Preserve, & The Club at Grandezza, and other local clubs.

Summer Golf Course Improvements

- This Summer, Venetian's golf course will receive extensive enhancements to improve playability and overall experience.
- The course will remain open though if play is disrupted, you won't miss out on golf when utilizing your reciprocal privileges!

Upon conclusion of your Discovery Membership, you'll receive a preferred rate to join as a Full Member. Contact Gary to learn more!

Gary Weller | Membership Director 941.441.2290 | gweller@heritagegolfgroup.com

Play at other clubs is based on availability and is reserved through the Venetian Golf Club professionals. Cart fees or discounted rates will apply. Contact the Membership office to learn more.



LEARN MORE

"Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so much"
~ H. Keller



Advocating for the Community

Membership Enrollment Form

Your Venetian Golf and River Club Community Association membership demonstrates the value you place on living in this community. For more information, visit our informative website, www.vgrcca.org

Your membership will provide the necessary financial support providing for the:

- Publication of the monthly Parcels from Paradise distributed to all Venetian households
- Continuation of the Hurricane Response Team, activated during an approaching hurricane
- Support for the Wall of Something, an electronic messaging board for members
- Scheduling of exciting seminars and events including Shredfest, Bike-O-Rama, CPR training and a host of presentations made by local experts

Quick Facts about the VGRCCA:

- Formed in 2008, the Community Association has a long and successful record of community engagement with a strong emphasis on communication to residents.
- For more information about the Community Association including a calendar of events and a list of accomplishments, go to our website: <https://vgrcca.org/about/>

There are two ways to join:

1. On-line at <http://www.vgrcca.org/membership>
We accept credit cards and use Pay Pal as our secure server.
2. Write a check, payable to **VGRC Community Association** and mail with this form to:
Membership
230 Padova Way
North Venice, FL 34275

Membership Dues Per Household

(Please Check Appropriate Line):

| SIGN UP | TERM DUES |
|--|----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Three Years (best deal) | \$70 (\$20 discount) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Two Years | \$50 (\$10 discount) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> One Year | \$30 |

ADDITIONAL VOLUNTARY DONATION: \$

If you appreciate the value of Parcels, Seminars, Hurricane Response and other contributions of the Community Association, please consider making a donation in excess of required dues.

MEMBER INFORMATION (PLEASE PRINT AND PROVIDE ALL INFORMATION):

NAME: _____

PREFERRED TELEPHONE #: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

ADDITIONAL NAME: _____

PREFERRED TELEPHONE #: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

VENETIAN ADDRESS: _____

OTHER MAILING ADDRESS: _____